



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: June 20, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V: Consideration of resolution authorizing the purchase of construction and landscape supplies and materials on the open market for the timely completion of Vista Hermosa Park, Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the purchase of construction and landscape supplies and materials on the open market for the timely completion of Vista Hermosa Park, Los Angeles.

Background: To increase the number of shaded areas and to upgrade existing planted areas and other site amenities at Vista Hermosa Park, a significant number of trees, plants and other materials will need to be purchased. To meet the deadline of the scheduled park opening and dedication on July 19th and to reduce any impact on the general contractor's constricted schedule, MRCA staff will now be performing a variety of tasks onsite. MRCA staff will need to purchase many of the materials and supplies to complete these tasks directly. These materials include but are not limited to irrigation and plumbing supplies, electrical supplies, fencing, signage and plants. Staff will be using a variety of vendors that they have purchased goods from in the past.

Plants will be likely be the goods that are purchased in greatest quantity. At eight acres, Vista Hermosa Park has large areas planted with native trees and plants. The density of planting in many of these areas needs to be increased. It is often difficult to find native trees of large enough size to cast shade immediately. Likewise, it is difficult to find native plants in the sizes and quantities necessary. MRCA staff has already begun contacting many of the nurseries they have worked with on past projects. Staff will need to purchase trees and plants from a variety of different growers throughout the region and beyond.

Two nurseries have already provided staff with availability lists. Matilija Nursery has a great number of plants available. Costs for these plants including delivery would be approximately \$100,000. Tree of Life Nursery has additional plants on the specialized list. Costs for their stock including delivery would be about \$50,000.